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A

GUIDE

FOR

GENTLEMEN STUDYING MEDICINE

AT THE

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

By J. JOHNSON, Esq.

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TO THE

MEDICAL PROFESSORS

OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH,

THE FOLLOWING SHEETS ARE OFFERED,

WITH MUCH RESPECT,

BY THEIR

OBLIGED PUPIL,

The AUTHOR.

LONDON,
Feb. 20th. 1792.

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dicine, or of Surgery, after having ſerved an Apprenticeſhip to a Surgeon or Apothecary. - - 63

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A

GUIDE, &c.

THE univerſity of Edinburgh has for many years been highly celebrated as a ſeminary for medical knowledge; and the various opportunities for improvement which its inſtitutions afford to ſtudents of the healing art, have very juſtly rendered it much reſorted to.

Gentlemen, who attend the college of Edinburgh, enjoy advantages which are denied them in other univerſities; they are allowed to reſide where they pleaſe, are not diſtinguiſhed from the other inhabitants of the town by any peculiarity of dreſs, and are confined to no particular routine of ſtudy *. In

* The candidates for the degree of the doctor of medicine, are excepted from this rule; they muſt attend a certain number of claſſes before they can be admitted to trial.

this manner genius is not cramped, and gentlemen have not an opportunity of loitering away their time in licenced idleneſs, which often happens in univerſities where the former monaſtic regulations ſtill prevail.

The ſeveral branches of medicine, however, are ſo intimately connected with each other, that unleſs ſome ſubjects are previouſly acquired, others cannot be underſtood: hence a proper plan of ſtudy is of the utmoſt importance.

The circumſtance, therefore, which renders the univerſity of Edinburgh ſuperiour to every other, is often the ſource of many evils: for gentlemen having no fixed principles by which their ſtudies can be regulated, are apt to direct their attention to medical ſubjects in ſo improper and irregular a ſucceſſion, that much labour and induſtry is frequently miſapplied.

When young men, unacquainted with the extent of knowledge neceſſary for medical practitioners, are left to purſue their ſtudies without a guide, they muſt often be led aſtray into the inticing fields of fancy and ſpeculation, while they ought to be attending to other objects.

Perhaps

Perhaps the ſuperficial knowledge of medicine, which has been diſcovered in ſome men of conſiderable abilities, after having attended the univerſity of Edinburgh for ſeveral years, may be attributed ſolely to this circumſtance.

Teachers and fellow-ſtudents are often conſulted about the plan of ſtudying medicine; but as their opinions are generally biaſſed by prejudice or motives of intereſt, it is obvious that their advice can never be depended on.

By exhibiting the advantages which may be derived from each medical inſtitution at Edinburgh, it is preſumed that every ſtudent may be rendered a competent judge of the beſt plan for purſuing a ſtudy, in which mankind muſt be very much intereſted.

The following ſheets contain a conciſe diſcription of all the medical inſtitutions at Edinburgh, with hints reſpecting the proper method for reaping benefits from them; as, alſo, plans of ſtudy accommodated to the different claſſes of ſtudents who attend that college.

The utility of this work, it is hoped, will

not be confined to ſtudents alone, for parents and guardians will, by peruſing it, be enabled to direct the ſtudies of their children or wards, and people in general will, by the ſame means, be rendered capable of judging of the extent of opportunities for acquiring knowledge, which gentlemen in the medical line, who may offer to reſide among them, have poſſeſſed.

MEDICAL LECTURES.

THE following medical lectures, which I ſhall arrange alphabetically, are given annually at the univerſity of Edinburgh; they all (except botany) commence on the laſt Wedneſday of October, and are concluded at the end of April. The fee for attending each courſe is three guineas:

ANATOMY: by DR. A. MONRO.

BOTANY: by DR. DANIEL RUTHERFORD.

CHEMISTRY: by DR. JOSEPH BLACK.

INSTITUTIONS, OR THEORY OF MEDICINE: by DR. A. DUNCAN.

MATERIA MEDICA: by DR. FR. HOME.

MIDWIFERY: by DR. A. HAMILTON.

PRACTICE

PRACTICE OF MEDICINE: by DR. JAMES GREGORY.

Beſides theſe, a courſe of lectures is given on the caſes of patients in the Royal Infirmary, in winter, by two of the profeſſors of medicine, and in ſummer by one of them.

ANATOMY.

A Knowledge of the ſtructure of the human body in its healthy and natural ſtate is indiſpenſibly neceſſary to thoſe who wiſh to remedy the diſorders to which it is liable; hence anatomy is very properly conſidered to be the foundation of all medical ſtudies.

The plan of Dr. Monro's courſe of lectures is much more extenſive than that of any other lecturer on anatomy, perhaps in Europe. For, in general, other teachers confine themſelves ſolely to the ſtructure and uſes of the various parts of the body, but Dr. Monro, after having fully pointed out theſe, conſiders the different diſeaſed ſtates which may be occaſioned by the derangement or accidental injury of any of the organs of which the human machine

chine is compoſed. He then in a maſterly manner exhibits the mode of treatment neceſſary in theſe diſeaſes; or, in other words, he gives a moſt comprehenſive view of the practice of ſurgery; for he deſcribes all the ordinary chirurgical operations, and performs them on a dead body in order to impreſs the rules. He concludes his courſe with ſome general phyſiological lectures, and a conciſe ſyſtem of comparative anatomy.

It may be added to this ſhort account of Dr. Monro's courſe, that he is poſſeſſed of a complete apparatus for illuſtrating every ſubject of his lectures; his preparations are exceeded in utility by thoſe of no lecturer whatever, and many of them are ſuperior to any thing of the kind ever produced *. The value of anatomical preparations does not ſeem to be properly underſtood by young men. By the various arts employed in preſerving parts of the body the ſtructure of the different organs is more clearly illuſtrated than it could otherwiſe be; and, by the preſervation of diſeaſed parts, many diſorders to which the human

* The preparations of the lymphatics are alluded to.

body

body is ſubject, that cannot be accurately underſtood from deſcription, are eaſily comprehended.

A medical practitioner ought with reaſon to be deemed the murderer of his patient, if it were diſcovered that, by having neglected to conſider the appearance of a preparation when ſtudying, he had overlooked and miſtaken the real complaint.

Method of ſtudying Anatomy.

THAT anatomy may be ſtudied according to rational principles, its end ſhould be conſidered: the knowledge of the ſtructure and functions of the human body is neceſſary to direct the proper manner of diſtinguiſhing the various diſeaſes to which it is liable.

The figure, ſituation, ſtructure, and functions of each organ ought, therefore, to be perfectly well known; but as the knowledge of theſe is only ſubſervient to general principles, it is obvious that a general idea of them alone is neceſſary.

The minutiæ of anatomy which is a ſubject of curioſity only, conſtitute a branch of the ſtudy

ſtudy of nature, and are not, therefore, eſſentially requiſite for the practice of medicine.

Thoſe who attend Dr. Monro for the firſt time, have no occaſion for the multiplicity of books which ſome people recommend; a compend of Anatomy, as thoſe of Leber or Heiſter, Haller's Phyſiology, and Mr. B. Bell's Syſtem of Surgery, may, perhaps, be ſufficient.

The firſt part in Dr. Monro's courſe, after a ſhort introduction, is the oſteology; in the compend, the principal parts of the bones are deſcribed; the ſtudent ſhould, therefore, make himſelf maſter of theſe, before he goes to the lecture, and diſregarding the other parts of the demonſtration (at leaſt for the firſt ſeaſon) he ought to attend to theſe alone.

By this means, without much trouble, every gentlemen will be enabled to acquire as perfect a knowledge of oſteology as is neceſſary.

The ſituation, figure, remarkable parts, connections, and uſes of every bone ſhould be known, any thing more belongs to the minutiæ of anatomy, and is, therefore, ſuperfluous to the ſtudent of medicine or ſurgery. The ſame

rules

rules are to be obſerved in ſtudying the muſcles and different organs, and a general idea of the known uſe of each organ ſhould be obtained from Haller's Firſt Lines of Phyſiology, before the doctor proceeds to treat of it.

It is not eaſy to point out a guide in that part of Dr. Monro's courſe which includes the deſcription of the changes produced on the body by diſeaſe, and therefore the ſtudent ſhould carefully write down, when he returns, the principal remarks of the profeſſor. Mr. B. Bell's works on ſurgery will clearly illuſtrate Dr. Monro's chirurgical obſervations, and every ſubject ought to be carefully read over before or after the lecture.

Gentlemen are apt to be miſled with reſpect to the lectures on comparative anatomy: they ſerve merely to elucidate ſome parts of phyſiology, and hence ought to be particularly ſtudied by *advanced* ſtudents.

For the benefit of thoſe who wiſh to acquire a perfect knowledge of anatomy, private demonſtrations of the ſubjects of Dr. Monro's lectures on the ſtructure of the body are given at an evening hour by Mr. Fyfe.

Every gentleman ſhould attend this courſe

the firſt ſeaſon he attends Dr. Monro, for by doing ſo, he will ſee every part more diſtinctly than the crowd at the doctor's claſs will allow, and beſides he is entitled to witneſs the preparation of the various parts of the dead body, which is neceſſary for illuſtrating the lectures.

An idea highly abſurd has been lately very prevalent among young men: it has been inſinuated that no one is qualified to reap benefit from the anatomical courſe in the univerſity of Edinburgh, until he has attended ſome ſubordinate teacher, in order to have a general view of anatomy.

Dr. Monro's plan, however, is ſuch that he leads gentlemen gradually forwards in the ſtudy of the ſtructure, functions, &c. of the human body; proceeding on the ſuppoſition that all his pupils are totally unacquainted with the ſubject.

If the method of ſtudying anatomy already ſuggeſted be purſued, gentlemen will not only derive great benefit from the firſt year's attendance, but will be better enabled to underſtand every part of the ſecond courſe, than if they had originally attended *inferior teachers*, whoſe

whoſe limited remarks and apparatus muſt embaraſs and miſlead rather than inſtruct.

It has been long conſidered to be a very great defect in the anatomical courſe of lectures in the college of Edinburgh, that ſtudents cannot be accommodated with *private diſſections*.

From the particular prejudices of the low people in Scotland, it will, probably, never be poſſible to eſtabliſh a public diſſecting room in Edinburgh.

Some individuals have attempted ſuch projects, and have pretended to have ſucceeded in their endeavours; but they have only impoſed on the world; for, by the utmoſt exertions of blameable induſtry, twenty dead bodies cannot be procured annually for diſſection in the capital of Scotland. And if theſe were had, they could not be diſſected with that leiſure and attention which the ſubject demands, without the greateſt riſk of the effects of popular fury.

By the greateſt number of ſtudents, this may be conſidered, and ought to be regarded as a matter of no importance; for, as Dr. Monro is always properly ſupplied with bodies

for illuſtrating his remarks, a perfect knowledge of anatomy, as far as is neceſſary for the practice of medicine, may be acquired at his claſs. Diſſection is only of conſequence to thoſe who mean to confine themſelves to the practice of ſurgery; it can therefore be had at London or Paris, which are the proper ſchools for ſurgeons.

A previous careful attendance on Dr. Monro and Mr. Fyfe*, will enable a ſtudent to reap much more advantage from diſſecting one body, than he could derive from the diſſection of a great many, without ſuch aid.

BOTANY.

BOTANY, although more properly a branch of natural hiſtory, is included among the ſtudies which, by the laws of the college, are neceſſary for thoſe who mean to become candidates for the degree of doctor of medicine.

Botany was formerly, with great propriety, joined with the materia medica; it is now however taught ſeparately.

* The fee for Mr. Fyfe's demonſtration, is only one guinea.

The ſtudy of Botany is highly ſeducing: few who purſue it, reflect that it is only in a very ſlight degree connected with medicine; hence many are led into a wide field of ſpeculation, which though it exhibits ſome of the moſt beautiful views in nature, carries off the attention from more profitable purſuits.

There is a public botanic garden in Edinburgh, for the purpoſe of illuſtrating the ſubjects of the lectures; and in it the claſs-room is ſituated.

In ſtudying botany the phyſiology of plants perhaps deſerves the principal attention. The long time which Dr. R. employs in explaining the terms of the art, renders the ſtudy highly diſguſting to the general run of his pupils, and prevents him from doing ſufficient juſtice to the phyſiological department of his courſe.

The Linnæan ſyſtem of claſſification is now fully eſtabliſhed, and may be eaſily underſtood by peruſing Linnæus' Principia Botanica; it may, however, probably be better for medical purpoſes to direct the attention more particularly to the fifty-eight natural orders.

The

The late worthy Dr. Hope uſed to conclude his courſe by the exhibition of the exotics belonging to the botanic garden, and by a deſcription of their powers in the cure of diſeaſes, &c. We learn, with much regret, that Dr. R. has not hitherto paid proper attention to ſo important a part of the courſe.

It has been alledged with ſome plauſibility that the ſtudy of botany, in the preſent improved ſtate of medicine, is not neceſſary to practitioners of the healing art, as all the medicines which the vegetable kingdom furniſhes are found in the ſhops, and deſcribed in every treatiſe on the materia medica.

But when it is conſidered that botany, like other branches of natural hiſtory, has now become part of the education of every gentleman, no medical practitioner will chooſe to hazard his abilities being called in queſtion by his ignorance of the principles of a ſcience which is vulgarly believed to be neceſſary, and ſubſervient to the ſtudy of medicine.

It muſt not, however, be forgotten; that medical ſtudents ſhould acquire all the knowledge eſſential to the practice of their profeſſion

before

before they amuſe themſelves with ornamental accompliſhments *.

CHEMISTRY.

CHEMISTRY being the art of diſcovering the effects of heat and mixture on the various ſubſtances in nature, preſents to every individual of mankind important and intereſting ſubjects of enquiry. To the philoſopher it furniſhes views of the moſt exalted kind; to the practitioner of the healing art, it affords means for diſcovering many valuable remedies; and, to the people in general, it exhibits the nature of all ſubſtances, in ſo far as ſuch knowledge is neceſſary for the purpoſes of life. Chemiſtry is now, therefore, with much propriety, conſidered as a branch of general education.

Dr. Black, whoſe celebrity is ſo great, that it is unneceſſary to mention the important advantages which may be derived from attending his lectures, divides his courſe into two

* Though the botanic garden is maintained at the expence of government, two ſhillings and ſix-pence is demanded from each ſtudent by the principal gardener. Such extortions are ſhameful.

parts;

parts; in the firſt he points out the effects of heat, and in the ſecond, thoſe of mixture.

After a few preliminary diſcourſes, he proceeds to conſider the nature of heat, a ſubject in which it is univerſally known he has highly diſtinguiſhed himſelf. Before he treats of the effects of mixture, Dr. Black exhibits a view of the apparatus of chemiſtry, after which he explains the nature of ſaline ſubſtances, inflammable bodies, earths, metals, and, laſtly, water.

The late important and numerous diſcoveries which have been made in chemiſtry, by the French, &c. particularly with reſpect to air, would induce the ſtudent to wiſh that Dr. Black ſhould allot a diſtinct part of his courſe to that intereſting ſubject. But the manner which he has adopted, is, perhaps, better calculated for the purpoſe of inſtruction than any other could be; for he introduces his obſervations on the various ſpecies of air, under the ſeveral articles, by the decompoſition or combination of which the different kinds of air are furniſhed.

It has been objected to Dr. Black's courſe, that it does not include a ſufficient number of

practical

practical directions for ſtudents of medicine. Theſe objections are urged only by thoſe who prefer a few mechanical rules to ſcientific knowledge, for if the principles of chemical operations be accurately underſtood, the practical rules may be very readily acquired.

Dr. Black's lectures are admirably well adapted for the ordinary run of his pupils, for they are calculated to exhibit general views of chemiſtry: nothing more is neceſſary either for gentlemen, or for the greateſt number of practitioners of the healing art.

In Paris, and lately in London alſo, courſes of lectures on chemiſtry are given, for the ſole purpoſe of illuſtrating the ſeveral proceſſes in manufactures; but, in Edinburgh, the field is too limited for ſuch attempts.

Method of ſtudying Chemiſtry.

ALTHOUGH the publications on chemiſtry have, within theſe few years, become very numerous, yet it is difficult to recommend any one as a ſyllabus to Dr. Black's lectures.

Chaptal's works, in three volumes, will, perhaps, anſwer that purpoſe better than any other.

The ſtudent ought to read over, very carefully, Chaptal's obſervations on the ſubjects of the lectures, immediately (or as ſoon as poſſible) after having heard the profeſſor, and ſhould write down the general principles; by which means every uſeful circumſtance will be deeply impreſſed on his memory. Chaptal's works will, in this manner, ſerve rather as an aſſiſtant than a ſyllabus.

Many young men, from a deſire of obtaining much information, attempt to write down completely the lectures of every profeſſor; but this practice generally produces an oppoſite effect.

In every courſe of lectures, many ſuperfluous expreſſions are neceſſarily employed; for the variety of capacity of the ſeveral pupils, renders it incumbent on every lecturer to illuſtrate his remarks in a more diffuſed manner than would otherwiſe be required. If, therefore, every word which he utters be regularly taken down, the ſtudent will find little pleaſure in peruſing his notes; for his mind would be always painfully occupied in ſelecting the general obſervations from the particular illuſtrations:

trations: he will, conſequently, often throw aſide his notes with diſguſt.

Another error, productive of worſe conſequences, but proceeding from the ſame principle, prevails very much among young men, the practice of writing notes in the *claſs-room* while the profeſſor lectures. Many plauſible arguments may be adduced in ſupport of this habit, which is now eſtabliſhed by long cuſtom; but when the ſubject is properly conſidered, it will be found productive of very bad effects.

Few gentlemen can take notes ſo completely as to include the ſubſtance of a lecture; for, while they mark down one obſervation, another will neceſſarily eſcape them: and, if any one attempts to write every thing, he will find, on examining his notes, many intereſting remarks miſrepreſented.

Theſe, though the moſt obvious, are not the moſt important inconveniences ariſing from this practice; for when one thinks that he has written the ſubject of a lecture, conſcious that he can have recourſe to his notes at pleaſure, he does not burden his memory with any of the obſervations contained in them; and,

therefore, though in fact poſſeſſed of much knowledge, he is unable to reap any advantage from it.

All theſe errors are avoided, if the method already recommended be purſued; for by reflecting on the different remarks of the profeſſor, and comparing them with thoſe of the beſt authors on the ſubject, the exertion neceſſary to recall them to mind will fix them there.

For ſome years Dr. Black has been frequently indiſpoſed, which has induced him to aſſume an aſſiſtant. His choice has fallen on a gentleman, whom his accompliſhments render highly worthy of ſuch an office, Dr. Rotheram, well known to the medical and philoſophical world. By his aſſiſtance, Dr. Black is enabled to give the moſt valuable courſe of lectures on chemiſtry, which is at preſent delivered by any profeſſor.

Institutions of Medicine.

THE object of the inſtitutions of medicine, is to explain the principles on which the practice of phyſic is founded.

Dr.

Dr. Duncan, ſo well known by his numerous valuable publications, divides his courſe into three parts: in the firſt, he deſcribes the nature, properties, and diſeaſes of the various parts of which the human body is compoſed. In the ſecond, he explains the operation, and uſe of the general claſſes of medicines employed in the cure of diſeaſes: and in the third part, he treats of medical juriſprudence, or concerning queſtions on medical ſubjects, which occur before the different courts of juſtice.

The firſt part of Dr. Duncan's courſe, it has been alledged, is explained by the profeſſor of anatomy; but, though the general principles are pointed out, yet it belongs to the department of the inſtitutions of medicine to give a connected view of the whole, without any attention to minute anatomy.

The ſecond part is abſolutely neceſſary to every practitioner of the healing art; for, without a knowledge of the manner of action of the various medicines, the moſt unfortunate miſtakes might often happen.

Dr. Duncan is entitled to the warmeſt encomiums for having introduced into his courſe a regu-

a regular view of medical jurisprudence; an improvement of the utmost importance; for, on many occasions, the reputation and business of a practitioner may be injured by an improper report, and the lives and fortunes of others may also be at stake.

In questions concerning the effects of poison, manslaughter, violation of chastity, child-murder, &c. the lives or fortunes of the parties may depend on the decision of the practitioner. If, by having neglected the institutions of medicine, any one should give an improper opinion on any of these questions, besides the risk of his reputation, being the cause of condemning an innocent person, would, surely, afford painful reflections.

The third part of Dr. Duncan's course, should, therefore, be considered as more valuable than the others, and ought, were there no other inducement, to recommend his lectures to the attention of every gentleman who wishes to practice medicine with success and satisfaction to himself.

Method

Method of ſtudying the Inſtitutions of Medicine.

DR. Gregory, who preceded Dr. Duncan in the charge of this claſs, and whoſe lectures on the inſtitutions did him much honour, publiſhed a work, which ſhould be uſed as a text-book for the firſt two parts of Dr. Duncan's courſe. The beauty of the language is equalled by the value of the matter, which is ſo great, that, by means of the "*Conſpectus Medicinæ Theoreticæ*" alone, an adequate idea could, perhaps, be formed of the ſubject of theſe two parts.

No work on medicinal juriſprudence is ſufficiently accurate to be depended on, and therefore the obſervations ought to be carefully written down after the ſtudent leaves the claſs.

MATERIA MEDICA.

THE medicines employed in the cure of diſeaſes, have, within theſe few years, been reduced to a ſmall number, and, conſequently, their hiſtory, qualities, appearances, and the doſes

doſes neceſſary to produce proper effects, may be very eaſily acquired.

From this circumſtance it has become faſhionable for the young gentlemen, ſtudying at Edinburgh, to deſpiſe or neglect Dr. Home's claſs.

But as many medicines, not at preſent in uſe among eminent practitioners, are often propoſed by inferior ones, or by the attendants, a knowledge of the appearance and qualities of all the medicines formerly employed is neceſſary; otherwiſe a practitioner muſt ſometimes be obliged to confeſs his ignorance to apothecaries' apprentices, or be expoſed to many diſagreeable ſituations.

Dr. Home divides his courſe into two parts; the firſt comprehending the hiſtory, qualities, doſes, &c. of all the animal, vegetable, and mineral ſubſtances which are uſed occaſionally in the prevention or cure of diſeaſes.

In the ſecond part, he treats of pharmacy or the manner of preparing all the various medicines for the purpoſes of practice.

Dr. Home, in the firſt part of his courſe, exhibits ſpecimens of the various medicines, to ſhew their appearances when genuine, and alſo

alſo, when bad or adulterated. The effects of the different modes of preparing and combining medicines, are explained in the ſecond part, which, therefore, may be conſidered as a valuable appendix, or rather illuſtration, of Dr. Black's courſe of lectures.

Method of ſtudying Materia Medica.

DR. Home has publiſhed a ſyllabus for his pupils, which contains merely the arrangement of his courſe.

The beſt aſſiſtants are, probably, Lewis's new Diſpenſatory, publiſhed by Dr. Rotheram, and Dr. Cullen's Treatiſe on the Materia Medica.

From the former of theſe works, the ſtudent ſhould learn the hiſtory, appearance, qualities, and doſes of the different medicines, before the profeſſor treats of them; and, from the latter, he ought to obtain an idea of the general effects of theſe, and the diſeaſes in which they are at preſent uſed.

In this manner, he will have an opportunity of comparing the obſervations of Dr. Home with thoſe of others, and may be

enabled to obſerve in what they agree, and to diſtinguiſh what is preferable where they differ.

MIDWIFERY.

THE importance of the art of midwifery to mankind in general, is univerſally acknowledged, and that art is now conſidered, with much propriety, a very intereſting and neceſſary branch of medical education.

When the practice of midwifery was principally confined to *women*, it might be deemed merely a mechanical art; but, ſince *gentlemen* began to be employed in that line, it has become very different; for the treatment of the diſeaſes of women, in almoſt every ſtage of life, has, by common conſent, been conſigned to the charge of male practitioners of midwifery. It is, therefore, very ſurpriſing, that this ſhould be the only medical claſs which candidates for degrees are not obliged to attend. Does this proceed from the jealouſy of the other profeſſors, the negligence of the profeſſor of midwifery, or the ignorance of the patrons of the univerſity?

Dr.

Dr. Hamilton divides his courſe into four parts. In the firſt he explains every circumſtance in the ſtate of women before delivery, with which a practitioner ought to be acquainted; in the ſecond, he deſcribes the treatment, during child-bearing, in all the variety of caſes which can occur: in the third, he deſcribes the management of lying-in women; and, in the fourth part, he exhibits a moſt complete view of the diſeaſes of children in early infancy.

In the firſt part, the profeſſor explains the peculiarity of the ſtructure of women, and the diſeaſes ariſing from that cauſe; he then proceeds to ſhew the effects of pregnancy, and the diſeaſes in conſequence, with the proper treatment. Many of the ſubjects of this part require to be illuſtrated by preparations, a complete collection of which has been procured by the preſent profeſſor, with much trouble and at a great expence.

In the ſecond part of the courſe, the management of all the variety of *labours* is detailed; in this part of his courſe Dr. Hamilton is particularly eminent; for, without diſ-

guſting his pupils with tedious minuteneſs, he deſcribes, moſt accurately, the treatment of every general caſe which can poſſibly happen.

His obſervations are illuſtrated by caſts in plaſter of Paris, and by demonſtrations on *machinery*, imitating women and children. Theſe demonſtrations are given at extra hours, by which the intention of them is completely fulfilled; and they are not hurried over at the ordinary time allotted for the lecture, as is done by moſt teachers.

The treatment of women in child-bed, forms the third part of the courſe: it is a very important ſubject, and, notwithſtanding the many authors who have written on it, is not yet fully explained. The profeſſor has paid particular attention to this part, and gives a very extenſive view of it.

In the fourth part of this valuable courſe, the nature and treatment of the diſeaſes, incident to children in early infancy, are pointed out.

Although theſe have lately attracted much attention, many of them are ſtill involved in obſcurity, and that practice, which is

founded

founded on philoſophical principles, now ſo univerſally adopted in the diſorders of grown people, has not hitherto been extended to the complaints of children.

The profeſſor has, for many years, endeavoured to point out a rational practice in the different diſeaſes incident to infancy.

Dr. Hamilton concludes his courſe with the hiſtory of midwifery; he divides this into two parts; in the firſt, he deſcribes the progreſs of midwifery; and, in the ſecond, he exhibits a critical view of the different works which have been publiſhed on that art.

The practice of midwifery is acquired in the lying-in ward of the Royal Infirmary; but, as it is on a very ſmall ſcale (containing only ſix patients at a time) Dr. Hamilton engages to furniſh his pupils with *private deliveries*, if they are very anxious to ſee much practice.

It muſt appear aſtoniſhing that, in Edinburgh, there is no public lying-in hoſpital. Whether is this occaſioned by the fault of the inhabitants, or of the medical practitioners? it is a great reproach on the latter, at leaſt *.

Dr.

* Since this work was put to preſs, the author underſtands that propoſals for a lying-in hoſpital, on an extenſive ſcale, have

Dr. Hamilton has been aſſiſted, for above three years, by his *ſon*, whoſe education has been regulated with the ſole deſign of rendering him capable of that important taſk.

The courſe of lectures, given by the profeſſor and his aſſiſtant, calculated to exhibit a complete ſcientific view of the diſeaſes of women and children, ſhould be attended by every medical ſtudent, whatever his future proſpects may be; for, without a knowledge of theſe ſubjects, no practitioner of medicine can expect to ſucceed in buſineſs.

Method of ſtudying Midwifery.

DR. Hamilton's courſe is conducted in ſuch a manner, that gentlemen are gradually inſtructed in the principles of the art; and, therefore, no book, as an aſſiſtant, except the profeſſors "Outlines of Midwifery," ſhould be uſed, for the firſt courſe. The ſtudent, however, ought to mark down, every day, the principal obſervations which have been made during the lecture.

have been publiſhed, by the profeſſor of midwifery; and have been received with ſo much approbation, that the inſtitution will be eſtabliſhed, it is thought, in a ſhort time.

In

In the ſecond courſe, Foſter's Midwifery, Denman's Introduction, White's Treatiſe on the Management of Pregnant and Lying-in Women, and Underwood on the Diſeaſes of Children, may be occaſionally conſulted; and, in the third courſe, the ſtudent may peruſe Baudeloque's Midwifery with advantage.

Dr. Hamilton is accuſtomed to mention, as he proceeds, the principal authors on the various ſubjects of which he treats, and to point out the circumſtances in which they judge properly, and in which they are miſtaken; this method is productive of important advantages to his pupils, and ſhould certainly be more univerſally adopted by lecturers than it is at preſent.

Dr. Hamilton gives three courſes of lectures in the year; the firſt is begun at the end of October, the ſecond at the beginning of February, and the third in the firſt week of May. The fees are three guineas, for the firſt; two guineas, for the ſecond; and one guinea, for the third courſe; after which the gentlemen are entitled to attend *gratis*. The fee for the lying-in ward is eleven ſhillings and ſix-pence each courſe.

Dr.

Dr. Hamilton alſo takes private pupils (named *annual pupils*) who, beſides attending the lectures and lying-in ward, are ſent to viſit patients in private practice.

As midwives are almoſt excluſively employed in *low life*, in Edinburgh; and as many of them are very ignorant; difficult caſes occur in a great proportion; Dr. Hamilton's pupils are entruſted with the charge of theſe caſes; they deliver under the direction of the doctor or his ſon, and hence acquire a complete knowledge of the practice. They have alſo opportunities of attending puerperal complaints and chronic diſeaſes of women and children.

The advantage of being an annual pupil is, therefore, very great; but it unfortunately can be extended to few, for Dr. Hamilton reſtricts the number. The fee paid by annual pupils is *ten guineas*.

PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

ALL the claſſes already enumerated (except midwifery) may be conſidered to be ſubſervient to the practice of medicine, which is the important object of medical ſtudents.

Dr. Gregory, whoſe abilities are ſo well known, ſucceeded the celebrated Dr. Cullen in this charge. As he has not yet made out a perfect plan of lectures, very little can be ſaid reſpecting his courſe. In his public diſcourſe, when he firſt appeared in his preſent chair, he mentioned that he meant to lecture according to the order of Dr. Cullen's Noſology; laſt year he only finiſhed the firſt order of that work, and this ſeaſon, we learn, he began where he left off.

Although, perhaps, it would be better for the general run of ſtudents, that a *complete view* of the practice of medicine ſhould be exhibited in every courſe; or, in other words, that the explanation of the general principles of every diſeaſe ſhould be comprehended within one courſe; yet, as it is impoſſible for gentlemen to acquire the knowledge of the practice of medicine in a *ſingle ſeaſon*, the plan which Dr. Gregory has adopted is, probably, the moſt eligible one.

By this means he is enabled to give a much more accurate deſcription of the ſeveral diſeaſes than could otherwiſe be done; and gentlemen,

attending two ſucceſſive courſes, are not diſguſted with a repetition of the ſame ſubjects.

Method of ſtudying the Practice of Phyſic.

IT may appear unneceſſary to remark, that no ſtudent is qualified to reap benefit from the lectures on the practice of phyſic until he has acquired a competent knowledge of the principles of anatomy, phyſiology, pathology, materia medica, and pharmacy.

Dr. Cullen's Noſology and Firſt Lines, and Macbride's works ought, perhaps, alone to be peruſed, during the attendance on Dr. Gregory's lectures.

With the aſſiſtance of theſe books, every ſtudent will be enabled to form a general idea of the nature, ſymptoms, and cure of the principal diſeaſes of which the profeſſor treats.

The principles of the practice of phyſic are with difficulty acquired; for, from the particular ſtructure of the human body, the effects of the ſame diſeaſe muſt be different in different perſons; hence it often requires much diſcernment to diſtinguiſh the nature of com-

 plaints,

plaints, and to determine the mode of practice.

The foundation of this power may be laid by a careful attention to the obſervations of the authors already referred to, and of Dr. Gregory; but much will depend on the manner in which that attention is directed. The great object which ſhould be aimed at, in courſes of lectures on the practice of phyſic, ought to be to explain the nature of every *general* diſeaſe; for particular complaints are ſo infinitely varied, that they could not be diſcribed within the ſpace allotted for ſeveral courſes.

The ſtudent ought therefore to confine his views, when attending Dr. Gregory, to thoſe great outlines which mark the various diſeaſes, but which are ſeldom found accurately ſketched in any particular caſe.

The ſymptoms, probable nature, and mode of cure of the ſeveral diſeaſes, as deſcribed by Dr. Gregory, ſhould be compared with the ſame ſubjects in Dr. Cullen's Firſt Lines, and Dr. Macbride's works: the circumſtances in which they all agree ought to be carefully

marked; and, where they differ the arguments on all ſides ſhould be maturely conſidered, and where they regard practical ſubjects the queſtion at iſſue may be determined by obſervations on the caſes of patients in the infirmary.

CLINICAL LECTURES.

TWO wards in the infirmary are appropriated for receiving male and female patients, whoſe treatment is under the care of two of the medical profeſſors: every winter doctors Home, Gregory, Rutherford and Duncan take charge alternately.

The caſes of theſe patients are regularly regiſtered; a report of their ſituation, of the effects of the remedies preſcribed, &c. is given every day at twelve o'clock; and in order that the purpoſe of the inſtitution ſhould be fully accompliſhed, the profeſſors are allowed to chooſe their patients from among all thoſe who are admitted into the infirmary.

The two profeſſors who have the care of the clinical wards, divide the labour between them, each taking charge for three months; by this means a variety of opportunity of practice is afforded to the pupils.

Each

Each profeſſor during the time of his charge, lectures on the caſes of his patients every Tueſday and Friday evening, at 5 o'clock; the caſes are thus explained, and the reaſons for the various remedies which have been employed clearly pointed out.

Dr. Home, in the Introduction to his Clinical Experiments, Hiſtories, and Diſſections, deſcribes, in an accurate manner, the important advantages which reſult from the inſtitution of the chemical lectures: the reader, is therefore, referred to this work.

Method of attending with advantage the Clinical Lectures.

THE caſe of every patient ſhould be clearly deſcribed, in order that the pupils may derive proper benefit from their attendance on the clinical lectures. The profeſſor generally makes choice of a gentleman to officiate as clerk; the duty of that gentleman is to regiſter the *caſes*, and make evening reports on the ſituation of thoſe patients whoſe diſeaſes are dangerous.

But

But the hiſtories and reports drawn out by the clerk ſhould never be implicitly depended on; for, from the variety of circumſtances to which he muſt neceſſarily attend, ſome errors will unavoidably eſcape him. It may alſo be obſerved, that if a ſtudent contents himſelf with copying the caſe of every patient, he can never have any idea of the diſeaſe, for there are many ſymptoms of which, though they clearly mark the ſituation of a patient, no idea can be conveyed by language.

Every ſtudent, therefore, who attends the clinical lectures, ſhould examine the ſtate of the patients, at hours different from thoſe appointed for the profeſſor's viſits, ſuch as morning and evening. If the diſeaſe is of ſuch nature that queſtions cannot be put to the perſons themſelves, the neceſſary information may be obtained from the nurſe.

In writing medical caſes, the age and habit of the patients, their ſituation in life, the apparent exciting cauſe of the complaint, and the principal ſymptoms of the diſeaſe, ſhould be carefully marked: if theſe are not ſufficiently diſtinct in the regiſter of the clinical ward,

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an induſtrious ſtudent may very eaſily remedy the defect.

The great objects in the lectures on the different caſes ought to be to illuſtrate the practice, to point out thoſe circumſtances which always attend ſimilar complaints, to explain thoſe ſymptoms which ſhould be conſidered as ariſing from peculiarity of conſtitution or of ſituation in life, and to elucidate the effects of different remedies.

The ſtudent ſhould, therefore, make himſelf maſter of the principles of the different diſeaſes, which form the ſubjects of the lectures before he enters the claſs, and ſhould accuſtom himſelf to reflect on the caſes of the patients, and compare the treatment with that generally recommended.

He will in this manner be prepared to underſtand and retain the remarks of the profeſſor, and be enabled to profit by them in his future practice. He ſhould write down at his leiſure hours, the chief obſervations on each caſe with his own reflections, by which he will poſſeſs a valuable collection of facts; and to theſe he may often afterwards have recourſe with great advantage.

From

From the view of the clinical lectures thus exhibited, it will be obvious that they are calculated for advanced ſtudents only.

PRIVATE TEACHERS.

FROM the time that the college of Edinburgh became eminent as a medical ſchool, private teachers on different ſubjects have appeared. Some of theſe by their abilities have been admitted into the college, while others having found the taſk laborious and unprofitable, have entirely relinquiſhed it.

In conſequence of private teachers, the profeſſors are ſtimulated to perform their duty with vigour, and are prevented from becoming inattentive.

This advantage, however, is more than counterballanced by the bad effects which have originated from the lectures of ſeveral private teachers; it is, therefore, neceſſary in a work of this kind, impartially to explain the view in which theſe gentlemen ought to be regarded, in order to prevent the ignorant from taking ſteps which they may afterwards repent ſeverely when too late.

As the profeſſors in the univerſity have *no ſalaries*, but muſt depend on their own exertions for any emoluments which may ariſe from their ſituation, it is evident that no gentlemen except thoſe who poſſeſs abilities equal to the important duties of ſuch a charge, will endeavour to become a member of the univerſity, while the patrons of the college would very properly reject them, if ſuch ſhould offer. The lectures of the profeſſors, therefore, muſt be *at leaſt equal* to thoſe of any private teacher.

The medical profeſſors of Edinburgh having more extenſive practice than any other phyſicians, have an opportunity of ſecuring a very great variety of caſes, to which private teachers can have no acceſs. A gentleman would have much occaſion to regret the having ſaved a few guineas *(to be ſpent perhaps in an improper manner)* by having attended private teachers inſtead of the regular profeſſor, if a caſe ſhould occur to him, of which he had heard no explanation, but with which a neighbouring practioner ſhould be perfectly acquainted from having purſued an oppoſite line of conduct.

In a political view, no private teacher ought to be preferred to the profeſſor, for as the world is apt to judge of the abilities of medical men by the opportunities of acquiring knowledge which they have poſſeſſed, the gentleman who has attended *eminent teachers*, will always be preferred by the judicious part of mankind.

The perſon who, *ſeduced* by any *temporary pleaſure*, attends a private lecture to ſave a *guinea* or *two*, certainly deſerves the many mortifications and diſappointments which he may afterwards encounter from that cauſe.

Private teachers, however, ſhould not be entirely diſcharged; moderate merit and abilities, by being properly ſupported, may gradually become eminent. But as private lecturers have not the opportunities for acquiring knowledge, nor the means for conveying inſtruction which the profeſſors enjoy, they ſhould be attended only as *extra courſes*. By this means, at a ſmall additional expence, different opinions may be compared, while the errors which originate from ſuperficial views of practice will be avoided by the pupils

pupils having heard the regular profeſſor on the ſame ſubject.

It is ſurpriſing, that no private lectures on Botany have ever been propoſed. A garden might be hired for a ſmall ſum, and there is certainly an excellent field for a man of abilities.

If the phyſiology, the method of cultivation, and the medical properties of plants, were deſcribed in an accurate manner; and the *terms* of botany and *principles* of claſſification explained in a ſyllabus, or at extra hours, inſtead of being made to form a part of the courſe, a valuable addition to the medical inſtitutions at Edinburgh would be eſtabliſhed.

Medical ſtudents would thus underſtand a part of natural hiſtory with which, *by the preſent mode of teaching it*, not above one in a hundred who attend the univerſity, is acquainted.

Clinical lectures on ſurgery are given by Mr. Ruſſell, *one of the ſurgeons of the Royal Infirmary*. Although theſe are given by a private theacher, they ought to be conſidered merely as an *appendage* to the medical lectures of the univer-

ſity, for they interfere with no claſs in the college, they form a very proper and neceſſary addition to the lectures on other branches of medicine; and they are read by one gentleman, whoſe abilities, information, and induſtry, render him worthy of a ſeat in the univerſity.

The object of theſe lectures is to illuſtrate the practice of ſurgery, in the ſame manner as the clinical lectures, delivered by the profeſſors, elucidate the practice of phyſic.

Mr. Ruſſell ſelects thoſe caſes for diſcuſſion which appear the moſt remarkable: he explains the general nature and treatment of the diſeaſe, and the variety of appearance which it aſſumes in different caſes. When an operation is performed in the infirmary, Mr. Ruſſell points out the reaſons which render ſuch expedients neceſſary, and the various propoſals which may have been made in the mode of performing it, together with the circumſtances, which had induced the ſurgeon to adopt the particular manner which had been purſued in the caſe alluded to.

This courſe is ſo valuable, that every one who intends to practice ſurgery, ought to attend

tend it: perhaps even the medical ſtudents would alſo reap advantages from it.

INFIRMARY.

THE infirmary of Edinburgh is much ſuperior to any ſimilar inſtitution in Britain, for the purpoſe of medical education.

The caſes of the patients are all regularly regiſtered, and an account of their ſituation is daily given by the attending phyſicians.

Two ordinary and an aſſiſtant phyſician have the charge of the medical patients; and the members of the royal college of ſurgeons take each in rotation the management of the chirurgical patients for the ſpace of two months at a time.

The ordinary manner which gentlemen purſue in attending the infirmary, inſtead of fulfilling the purpoſe intended, is calculated to lay the foundation of much error.

When young men follow the phyſicians in their viſits, and hear them aſk queſtions of the patients or nurſes, and preſcribe remedies, if they are unacquainted with the principles of ſeveral diſeaſes which they thus ſee treated,

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they can certainly derive little profit from their labour. Students ſhould not, therefore, attend to the medical caſes, until they have acquired the *general principles* of the practice of medicine.

They ſhould, until then, content themſelves with a careful attendance on the chirurgical patients, for which they may eaſily become qualified by the peruſal of Mr. B. Bell's works on Ulcers and Surgery. It ought to be regretted, that no other *modern ſyſtem* of ſurgery has been publiſhed; for the great quantity of *extraneous matter* contained in that work, renders it much leſs valuable than it would otherwiſe have been. Mr. Bell's obſervations could be eaſily comprehended within *two ordinary ſized volumes*, and might certainly be given to the public in a better dreſs.

The caſes in the chirurgical ward are not regiſtered with the ſame accuracy as thoſe under the charge of the phyſician, for the greateſt number of ſurgeons make no daily reports, but leave the progreſſive ſtate of the different diſeaſes to be deſcribed according to the judgment of the clerk. This great abuſe ſhould be corrected by the managers of the infirmary.

A ſtudent ought to mark down regularly, every day, the ſituation of each patient, by which means he will underſtand all the caſes, and become intruſted in the events.

Although many ſtudents mean to dedicate themſelves entirely to the practice of medicine, they ſhould all attend the chirurgical ward for one ſeaſon, becauſe every phyſician ought to be acquainted with the general principles of ſurgery.

Thoſe who mean to practice ſurgery ſhould endeavour to become *dreſſers*, (a certain number are appointed at Martinmas and Whit-ſunday) which will enable them to dreſs wounds, &c. with neatneſs and dexterity.

MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

IN the year 1737, a few gentlemen met once or twice a week, to conſider the opinions of the profeſſors, and by ſpeaking Latin on medical ſubjects to prepare themſelves for the degree of doctor of medicine.

The members of this private ſociety gradually became numerous; a regular inſtitution was formed, and in the year 1778, a royal

royal charter for incorporating members was procured. In the year 1776, the ſociety began to hold their meetings in a new hall erected for that purpoſe, where proper apartments are fitted up for their library, public and private meetings, &c.

Since the eſtabliſhment of the medical ſociety, many ſimilar inſtitutions have been founded, and at preſent the following hold regular meetings during the winter: viz. the Royal Phyſical, the Chirurgo-Phyſical, the American Medical, the Hibernian Phyſical, the Chirurgo-Obſtetrical, and the Natural Hiſtory Society.

In a work of this kind it is impoſſible to give an account of each of theſe, but as they are all nearly ſimilar to the original one from which they are derived, a ſhort view of the *medical ſociety* will convey an idea of the general principles of the others.

The medical ſociety is governed by four preſidents who are choſen annually, the caſh accounts are kept by a treaſurer, and the books and regiſters by a ſecretary.

It conſiſts of honorary, correſponding, extraordinary, and ordinary members.

Thoſe

Thoſe eminent medical practioners whoſe reputation entitles them to ſo diſtinguiſhed an honour may be elected honorary members: they are choſen by ballot, after having been propoſed at a previous meeting, are allowed to attend the public meetings of the ſociety, and to take a ſhare in the debates.

The correſponding members are choſen in the ſame manner, and enjoy almoſt the ſame privileges; they conſiſt of thoſe medical practioners who, although poſſeſſed of great abilities, have not yet become celebrated by any particular publication.

The extraordinary members are entitled to attend all the meetings of the ſociety, and to vote at elections; they are not obliged to furniſh diſſertations, nor are they ſubjected to penalties for non-attendance. Every gentleman becomes, *ex officio*, an extraordinary, after having been for a certain time an ordinary member, and after having written diſſertatations on ſubjects propoſed by the ſociety.

The ordinary members are elected by ballot; candidates are required to petition for admiſſion, and to atteſt that they are qualified for a

ſeat in the ſociety, by having attended a ſchool of medicine for *more than ſix months*. Their petition is hung up in the library for a week, after which they are admitted or rejected according to the ſtate of the ballot. No gentleman can petition (if rejected) above *three times* during the ſeaſon.

On admiſſion, the ordinary members ſign an obligation to obey the laws, and to take care of the library, of the ſociety. They pay the ſum of *five guineas* to the preſident or treaſurer, and are afterwards obliged to attend all the ordinary meetings, &c. under certain penalties.

Four members, and one preſident in rotation, have it in their power, each to appoint a viſitor for the enſuing meeting.

The ſociety meets at ſix o'clock every Saturday evening during the winter; the firſt hour is dedicated to private buſineſs, ſuch as regulations reſpecting the funds, books, &c. of the ſociety; after this, the public buſineſs is commenced, to which alone viſitors are admitted.

At every public meeting, a diſſertation in Engliſh on a medical caſe, another on a me-

dical or philoſophical queſtion, and a commentary in *Latin*, on an aphoriſm of Hippocrates, are read by different gentlemen. The caſe is firſt read by the author, and then again by the preſident, in order that gentlemen (for viſitors are allowed a ſhare in the debates) may have an opportunity of making obſervations on it, which the author or any other member is expected to anſwer.

After the caſe is fully diſcuſſed, the queſtion is read and debated in the ſame manner; and laſtly, the commentary on the aphoriſm is read, and the obſervations on it delivered in *the Latin language*.

All theſe diſſertations are generally written in an elegant manner, many of them contain much original information, and although they are commonly the firſt fruits of medical ſtudy, they would not diſcredit old proficients.

The ſubjects of theſe eſſays are ſettled the ſeaſon before they are required to be laid before the ſociety, by which means time for furniſhing them with care is allowed. On a certain day, all the ordinary members are obliged to give to the preſident in writing, a medical

caſe, a queſtion on a medical or philoſophical ſubject, and an aphoriſm of Hippocrates; theſe are referred to a committee who chooſe *thirty-ſix* of each as ſubjects for diſſertation the following ſeaſon: the gentlemen whoſe duty it is to furniſh eſſays draw lots for theſe.

In this manner proper ſubjects are regularly ſubmitted to the conſideration of the ſociety. But as the genius of many might be cramped by being obliged to write on matters not congenial to the mind, authors are allowed to petition the committee for liberty to write on any ſubjects they wiſh; and their requeſt, if reaſonable, is always complied with.

The ordinary members pay every year, while they reſide in Edinburgh, a certain ſum for the ſupport of the library, until they become extraordinary, provided they do not contribute (excluſive of fines) above ſix guineas and a half, including their admiſſion money, which is the ſum they muſt pay before they are conſtituted extra ordinary members.

The library belonging to the ſociety is very valuable and expenſive; the members are allowed the uſe of a certain number of books at a time,

a time, but are not permitted to keep any ſingle book above two weeks if it is wanted by another gentleman. All the books are collected twice a year, and ſubmitted to the examination of a committee, by which regulation few books are loſt.

Such are the *great outlines* of this valuable inſtitution; by attending it, gentlemen have an opportunity of acquiring much knowledge on medical ſubjects, they have liberty to canvaſs freely every medical opinion, and the debates are generally inſtructive and intereſting.

Every member ought to adopt the famous adage, "Nullius addictus jurare in verba magiſtri," for the great object in the eſtabliſhment of the medical ſociety, was to diſcuſs without reſtraint the opinions of eminent teachers and authors.

The other medical ſocieties in Edinburgh, founded on the ſame principles, are productive of nearly ſimilar advantages; the medical ſociety is ſuperior to them all, in being the moſt *ancient*, the *beſt known abroad*, and in poſſeſſing the moſt *valuable library*.

PLANS

PLANS OF STUDY

ACCOMMODATED to the different claſſes of medical ſtudents who attend the univerſity of Edinburgh.

The medical ſtudents who reſort to the univerſity of Edinburgh, may be divided into two claſſes, for each of which a different *plan* of *ſtudy* will be neceſſary.

The firſt claſs conſiſts of thoſe who have no previous knowledge of the healing-art, and the ſecond comprehends thoſe who have already made ſome progreſs in the ſtudy of medicine.

The firſt claſs may be ſubdivided into three orders. 1. *Students who intend to complete their education at London or Paris.* 2. *Thoſe who mean to take the degree of doctor of medicine at Edinburgh.* 3. *Thoſe who wiſh to practice as ſurgeons or apothecaries immediately after leaving the college.*

The ſecond claſs may be ſubdivided into ſimilar orders, viz. 1. *Thoſe who wiſh to perfect themſelves in the knowledge of the practice of phyſic and ſurgery, after having ſerved a regular*

gular apprenticeſhip to a ſurgeon or Apothecary. 2. *Thoſe who having already ſtudied at another univerſity, propoſe to graduate at Edinburgh.* 3. *Thoſe who having obtained the degree of doctor of medicine at another univerſity, attend the college of Edinburgh for the purpoſe of acquiring the opinions of the ſeveral profeſſors on the different medical ſubjects.*

The following tables calculated for all theſe orders of ſtudents, explained by the few obſervations ſubjoined to each, are offered with the view of promoting the ſtudy of medicine on rational principles.

CLASS I. TABLE I.

PLAN of Study for thoſe who intend to complete their Education at London or Paris.

Firſt Year.

ANATOMY.
CHEMISTRY.
INSTITUTIONS of MEDICINE.
INFIRMARY.

Second

Second Year.

CLINICAL LECTURES.
INFIRMARY.
MIDWIFERY.
PRACTICE of MEDICINE.

Obſervation on Table I.

ONE courſe of Dr. Monro's lectures with the aſſiſtance of Mr. Fyfe's demonſtrations, will be ſufficient for thoſe who have only two years to reſide in Edinburgh, and who intend to finiſh their ſtudies at London or Paris. They will ſtudy *minute anatomy* better in any of theſe places, and a general view, ſo as to enable them to underſtand the other branches of medicine, is alone neceſſary for them while in Edinburgh.

Much attention, however, ſhould be paid to Dr. Monro's valuable phyſiological and pathological reſearches; perhaps gentlemen will find it their intereſt to attend his courſe both years, in order to acquire a perfect knowledge of theſe ſubjects.

The

The inſtitutions of medicine merit attention, both for the connected view of the principles of medicine which they exhibit, and for the obſervations on medical juriſprudence, which are delivered in no other claſs.

Chemiſtry, as a highly ornamental accompliſhment, ought to be ſtudied by every gentleman.

After the firſt year, the ſtudents comprehended under this order ſhould attend midwifery; becauſe a much more ſcientific courſe is given by Dr. Hamilton than by any teacher in any other medical ſchool.

The practice of medicine is eſſentially neceſſary, for the purpoſe of illuſtrating the clinical lectures, which ought never to be neglected.

CLASS I. TABLE II.

PLAN of Study, for thoſe who mean to take the Degree of Doctor of Medicine at Edinburgh.

Firſt Year.

ANATOMY.

INSTITUTIONS of MEDICINE.

INFIRMARY.
MATERIA MEDICA.
MIDWIFERY.

Second Year.

CHEMISTRY.
CLINICAL LECTURES.
INFIRMARY.
PRACTICE of MEDICINE.

Third Year.

ANATOMY.
BOTANY.
MIDWIFERY.
PRACTICE of MEDICINE.
INFIRMARY.

Obſervations on Table II.

THE advantage of attending anatomy, the inſtitutions of medicine, and materia medica, may probably be ſo obvious, that no illuſtration

tion is required; but the uſe of midwifery, the firſt year, may not be ſo evident.

Dr. Hamilton, in the treatment of every ſubject, proceeds on the ſuppoſition, that gentlemen are almoſt unacquainted with other branches of medicine; and, therefore, all the ſtudents underſtand him eaſily: hence midwifery can be attended more eaſily the firſt year, than during the ſecond, when their hours are occupied in the inveſtigation of ſubjects which require much time.

Beſides, if any circumſtance ſhould occur, which might render the knowledge of midwifery an intereſting object, as gentlemen, by paying for three courſes, have it in their power to attend gratis as long afterwards as they pleaſe, the ſooner they begin, they will reap the greater benefits.

The claſſes recommended for the ſecond year, may perhaps appear to be too few; but when the time neceſſary for ſtudying chemiſtry properly, and for underſtanding completely the lectures on the practice of medicine, and on the caſes of clinical patients, is conſidered, it

will be found, that an *induſtrious ſtudent* will in that manner have every hour of his time conſtantly employed.

If the ſtudent remains in Edinburgh during the ſummer, after the firſt year, he ſhould attend botany; becauſe it is neceſſary for a degree.

Anatomy ought, perhaps, to be ſtudied the ſecond, as well as the firſt year; and, in the third ſeaſon, it is indiſpenſibly requiſite; for the ſtudent, having then acquired a general idea of the whole ſcience of medicine, will be acquainted with thoſe circumſtances which claim his particular attention, and will conſequently profit very much by Dr. Monro's valuable courſe.

The practice of medicine ſhould be attended two years ſucceſſively, otherwiſe a complete view of that intereſting ſtudy cannot be acquired.

Midwifery is recommended on the third year, for the ſake of the important obſervations which Dr. Hamilton makes on the diſeaſes of women and children.

CLASS

CLASS I. TABLE III.

PLAN of Study, for thoſe who wiſh to practiſe as Surgeons or Apothecaries, immediately after leaving the College.

Firſt Year.

ANATOMY.
CHEMISTRY.
INFIRMARY.
INSTITUTIONS of MEDICINE.
MIDWIFERY.

Second Year.

ANATOMY.
CLINICAL LECTURES.
INFIRMARY.
MATERIA MEDICA.
PRACTICE of MEDICINE.

Third Year.

ANATOMY.
INFIRMARY.

LEC-

LECTURES on SURGICAL CASES by Mr. RUSSEL.

MIDWIFERY.

PRACTICE of MEDICINE.

Obſervations on Table III.

ALTHOUGH, by a careful attendance on the caſes in the infirmary, every important obſervation reſpecting the various ſymptoms of different diſeaſes, &c. may be readily acquired, yet there are many circumſtances which can only be learned from actually attending private practice; without a knowledge of which, practioners will often appear aukward and embarraſſed.

Every gentleman, therefore, who means to enter on buſineſs immediately after leaving the college, ought to endeavour to viſit private patients during the laſt year of his reſidence in Edinburgh. This may be accompliſhed, by attending the ſhop of a reſpectable ſurgeon, or by becoming annual pupils to the profeſſors of midwifery. If the practice of midwifery will form any part of his future occupations, he ought by no means to loſe ſo

favourable an opportunity for improvement in that line.

CLASS II. TABLE I.

PLAN of Study, for thoſe who wiſh to perfect themſelves in the Knowledge of the Practice of Medicine and of Surgery, after having ſerved an Apprenticeſhip to a Surgeon or Apothecary.

Firſt Year.

ANATOMY.
LECTURES on SURGICAL CASES by Mr. RUSSEL.
INFIMARY.
MIDWIFERY.
PRACTICE of MEDICINE.

Second Year.

ANATOMY.
CLINICAL LECTURES.
INFIRMARY.
PRACTICE of MEDICINE.

Should

Should the ſtudent be confined to one year, the following claſſes ought to be attended:

ANATOMY.
CLINICAL LECTURES.
MIDWIFERY.
PRACTICE of MEDICINE.

Obſervations on Table I.

NO young man ought to attempt to practiſe as a ſurgeon or apothecary, without having ſerved a regular apprenticeſhip; for there are numberleſs circumſtances which muſt neceſſarily be obſerved, in the room of a patient, which cannot be explained in a lecture, nor deſcribed in books.

After having been with a ſurgeon or apothecary for four or five years, if the ſtudent is induſtrious, he will become qualified for general practice, by attending the medical claſſes in the univerſity of Edinburgh for *two* ſeaſons; though every one who wiſhes to ſtudy on a liberal plan, ought to attend for three years: the table, however, is made out for thoſe who can only allow themſelves two ſeaſons.

It may appear aſtoniſhing, that neither materia medica nor chemiſtry is included in the liſt of claſſes in this table; the former will be well enough underſtood by every one who has ſerved ſome time in a ſhop, and the latter is to be conſidered rather as an ornamental than neceſſary ſtudy. Thoſe branches which are abſolutely neceſſary for the practice of medicine or ſurgery, ſhould be firſt ſtudied.

If the gentleman can ſtay a third winter, he may attend chemiſtry, and the inſtitutions and the practice of medicine.

CLASS II. TABLE II.

PLAN of Study for thoſe who, having already ſtudied at another Univerſity, propoſe to *graduate* at Edinburgh.

First Year.

ANATOMY.
CHEMISTRY.
INFIRMARY.
INSTITUTIONS of MEDICINE.
PRACTICE of MEDICINE.
Summer. BOTANY, MIDWIFERY.

Second Year.

ANATOMY.
CLINICAL LECTURES.
INFIRMARY.
MATERIA MEDICA.
PRACTICE of MEDICINE.
Summer. MIDWIFERY.

Obſervations on Table II.

AFTER having ſtudied at any other medical univerſity, candidates for the degree of doctor of medicine at Edinburgh are not obliged to attend the claſſes of that college above *two* years; but they muſt take tickets from all the profeſſors of medicine.

It would be impoſſible to reap benefit from all theſe within the ſpace of two years, without previous acquaintance with the ſubject, and even with that advantage, it is not very eaſy to attend regularly to them all.

The ſtudent ought, therefore, to confine his attention, when at home, to thoſe branches of medicine which are moſt eſſential, or in which he feels himſelf not ſufficiently verſed; and by attending the lectures on the other ſubjects,

ſubjects, what he formerly acquired will be recalled to his mind.

CLASS II. TABLE III.

PLAN of Study, for thoſe who having obtained the Degree of Doctor of Medicine at another Univerſity, attend the College of Edinburgh for the purpoſe of acquiring the Opinions of the ſeveral Profeſſors on the different Medical Subjects.

ANATOMY.
CHEMISTRY.
CLINICAL LECTURES.
INFIRMARY.
MIDWIFERY.
PRACTICE of MEDICINE.

Obſervations on Table III.

GENTLEMEN comprehended under this order are adviſed to attend Dr. Monro, not on account of the anatomical part of his courſe, but for ſake of his phyſiological and pathological obſervations.

The juſt celebrity of Dr. Black ſhould engage every gentleman to attend his lectures; although, perhaps, thoſe of foreign chemiſts may be better adapted for medical purpoſes.

The clinical lectures, and thoſe of the profeſſor of the practice of medicine, by conveying a proper idea of the ſtate of the medical practice of the profeſſors of Edinburgh, ought to claim a very intereſting part of every ſtudent's attention.

Dr. Hamilton's lectures are recommended to gentlemen, for whom this table is intended, on account of his valuable view of the diſeaſes of children, in which he is probably not equalled by any other teacher.

POST-

POSTCRIPT.

AFTER the author had finiſhed the preceding work, he obſerved, in an Edinburgh news-paper, the following advertiſement *:

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

THE following *COURSES* of *LECTURES* in different *Branches of Science* will be given during the enſuing *Summer*, by the reſpective PROFESSORS.

	TO OPEN.
BOTANY—by Dr. RUTHERFORD,	May 7.— 8 morning.
MIDWIFERY—by Dr. HAMILTON,	May 1.—10 morning.
MATHEMATICS—by Prof. PLAYFAIR,	May 7.—10 morning.
MORAL PHILOSOPHY—by Prof. STEWART,	May 7.—11 forenoon.
CLINICAL LECTURES—by Dr. HOME,	May 7.— 1 afternoon.
NATURAL HISTORY—by Dr. WALKER,	End of April—2 aftern.
NATURAL PHILOSOPHY—by Prof. GREENFIELD for Prof. ROBISON,	May 7.—3 afternoon.

N. B. The above Courſes to continue till about the firſt of Auguſt.

ANXIOUS to promote, to the utmoſt in his power, the ſtudy of medicine, and the proper

* Theſe obſervations were thought to be ſuitable, when it was ſuppoſed this little pamphlet would have been publiſhed in the ſummer. They were not however omitted, as they will apply to the *uſual* ſummer courſes.

intereſt

intereſt of thoſe who dedicate themſelves to that important profeſſion; the author is induced to make a very few additional obſervations.

BOTANY.

THE circumſtances which render this claſs neceſſary, have been already explained.

CLINICAL LECTURES.

IF the attendance on the ſummer courſe of clinical lectures is accepted by the profeſſors of medicine, in lieu of the winter courſe; any ſtudent who may not have leiſure at that time, ſhould attend it. But, it muſt not be concealed, that the *winter courſe* is far ſuperior to that given in ſummer; becauſe the ideas of two people are acquired by attending the former; whereas, the latter is intruſted to *one* profeſſor alone.

MATHE-

MATHEMATICS.

THE propriety of teaching the elements of mathematics in a public claſs, may be very much doubted. The firſt ſix books of Euclid, which form the foundation of the ordinary courſes on mathematics, cannot be acquired by attending *lectures*.

As the ſtudy of this ſcience ought to form a part of the preparatory acquiſitions of a medical ſtudent; if it has been neglected, he ſhould certainly endeavour to remedy the defect in his education.

The beſt means, however, for this purpoſe, is to attend a private teacher, who at leſs expence, and in a ſhorter time, will qualify a young man for underſtanding natural philoſophy, better than any public profeſſor can do.

The mathematical claſs in ſummer, in the college of Edinburgh, muſt be perfectly inconſiſtent with the views of medical gentlemen; for it meets at the ſame hour with the lectures on midwifery, which ought not to be

be omitted by any ſtudent who remains in Edinburgh during the ſummer.

MIDWIFERY.

THE importance of this claſs has been already ſo fully explained, that it is perhaps unneceſſary to add any thing on the ſubject.

No gentleman, who purſues the ſtudy of medicine, ought to neglect this claſs, whatever his future proſpects may be.

The extent of the preſent profeſſor's lectures, far exceeds that of any other teacher; and as his courſe comprehends the diſeaſes incident to women, in the unimpregnated, pregnant, parturient and peurperal ſtate, and alſo the complaints incident to children in early infancy, it ſhould be conſidered as one of the moſt important medical claſſes.

NATURAL HISTORY.

DR. Walker gives a valuable and intereſting courſe of natural hiſtory, calculated for the attention of gentlemen in general, and of the ſtudents of medicine in particular.